

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 ERDE-00 /135 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5934
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3547

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, US, UN
SUBJECT: 32ND UNGA: FIRST COMMITTEE AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF WORK

REF: USUN 3527

SUMMARY: CHAIRMAN BOATEN HAS INFORMED US OCT 5 THAT, DESPITE SOVIET REQUEST TO START FIRST COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS WITH THEIR NEW ITEM (REFTEL), NON-ALIGNED GROUP STRONGLY FAVORS STARTING WITH DISARMAMENT ISSUES ON OCT 17. US SAID IT WAS FLEXIBLE AND OPEN, AND COULD AGREE TO STARTING WITH DISARMAMENT ITEMS. WE ALSO SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF COMBINING NEW SOVIET ITEM WITH NON-USE OF FORCE IN COMBINED ONE WEEK DISCUSSION. FIRST COMMITTEE DUE TO DECIDE ON SCHEDULING QUESTIONS OCT 7 AT 3 P.M. END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN BOATEN TOLD USUN OFFICERS ON OCT 5 THAT HE ENVISAGES FOLLOWING SEQUENCE FOR CONSIDERATION OF FIRST COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS, STARTING OCT 17. A) DISARMAMENT ITEMS -- 40-45 MEETINGS; B) OUTER SPACE -- 8 MEETINGS; C) THE NEW SOVIET ITEM ON DETENTE AND PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR -- 12 MEETINGS; AND D) NON-USE OF FORCE (NUF) AND STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (SIS)
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-- 10 MEETINGS. BOATEN SAID THAT NON-ALIGNED GROUP WAS FIRM IN ITS INSITENCE THAT DISARMAMENT ISSUES COME UP FIRST BUT OPEN AS TO WHETHER NEW SOVIET ITEM OR OUTER SPACE COMES SECOND. BOATEN ADDED THAT HE HAD TOLD ISSRAELYAN THAT HIS DELEGATION COULD NOT AGREE TO SOVIET REQUEST TO START THE DEBATE WITH THEIR NEW ITEM, HE WAS CERTAIN THAT SOVIETS UNDERSTOOD

NON-ALIGNED POSITION CLEARLY.

2. WE TOLD BOATEN THAT US HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO STARTING WITH DISARMAMENT ISSUES WHICH HAD HIGHLIGHTED IN THE PRESIDENT'S UNGA ADDRESS. WE WERE OPEN AND FLEXIBLE ON THE SEQUENCE OF FIRST COMMITTEE WORK. AT SAME TIME, WE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF REACHING FIRM DECISION ON SCHEDULING AT OCT 7 MEETING SO THAT OUR DISARMAMENT TEAM CAN MAKE APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE IN NEW YORK AT OPENING OF DISARMAMENT SECTION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK. WE FURTHER URGED BOATEN TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF PUTTING TOGETHER DISCUSSION OF THE NEW SOVIET ITEM WITH NUF. BOATEN LIKED THE IDEA AND ADDED SUGGESTION THAT THESE BE COMBINED WITH SIS FOR GRAND TOTAL OF 22 MEETINGS.

3. INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WILL CONTINUE IN NEXT TWO DAYS. WE BELIEVE US CAN CONTINUE TO TAKE LOW PROFILE APPROACH IN VIEW OF STRONG VIEWS HELD BY NON-ALIGNED. SWEDES CLEARLY WOULD PREFER TO START WITH DISARMAMENT ISSUES ON OCT 17 AS THEY HAD PROPOSED INFORMALLY TO US AND OTHERS LAST MONTH. AT THIS STAGE, SOVIETS AND EE GROUP SEEM ALONE IN PUSHING FOR COMMENCEMENT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE NEW SOVIET ITEM.
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